JOHN JENNINGS · VALENTINE De LANDRO · MATT MILLA
SILVER SURFER
GHOST LIGHT
MARVEL 2

TO SAVE HIS PLANET, NORRIN RADD SURRENDERED HIS FREEDOM TO BECOME HERALD TO THE WORLD-DEVOURING GALACTUS. COATED WITH GALACTIC GLAZE, GIVEN A SURFBOARD OBEYING HIS MENTAL COMMANDS AND GRANTED THE POWER COSMIC, HE NOW SOARS THE UNIVERSE AS A SHINING SENTINEL OF THE SPACE WAYS!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

SILVER SURFER

GHOST LIGHT

PREVIOUSLY...

TONI BROOKS AND HER FAMILY HAVE MOVED INTO THE QUIET TOWN OF SWEETWATER. BUT THIS TOWN IS FULL OF MYSTERIES—THE CENTRAL ONE BEING: WHAT HAPPENED TO TONI'S UNCLE, AL HARPER, WHO SUDDENLY VANISHED YEARS AGO?

TONI AND HER BROTHER, JOSH, HAVE FOUND A CLUE AS THEY STUMBLED UPON A HIDDEN LAB UNDERNEATH THEIR HOME AND UNLEASHED A COSMIC BEING TONI HAS ONLY SEEN IN HER DREAMS.

NOW THE KIDS HAVE COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE SILVER SURFER HIMSELF! IS HE THE KEY TO UNRAVELING THE THIS SMALL TOWN'S MYSTERIES?

PART 2: **"DARKNESS"**

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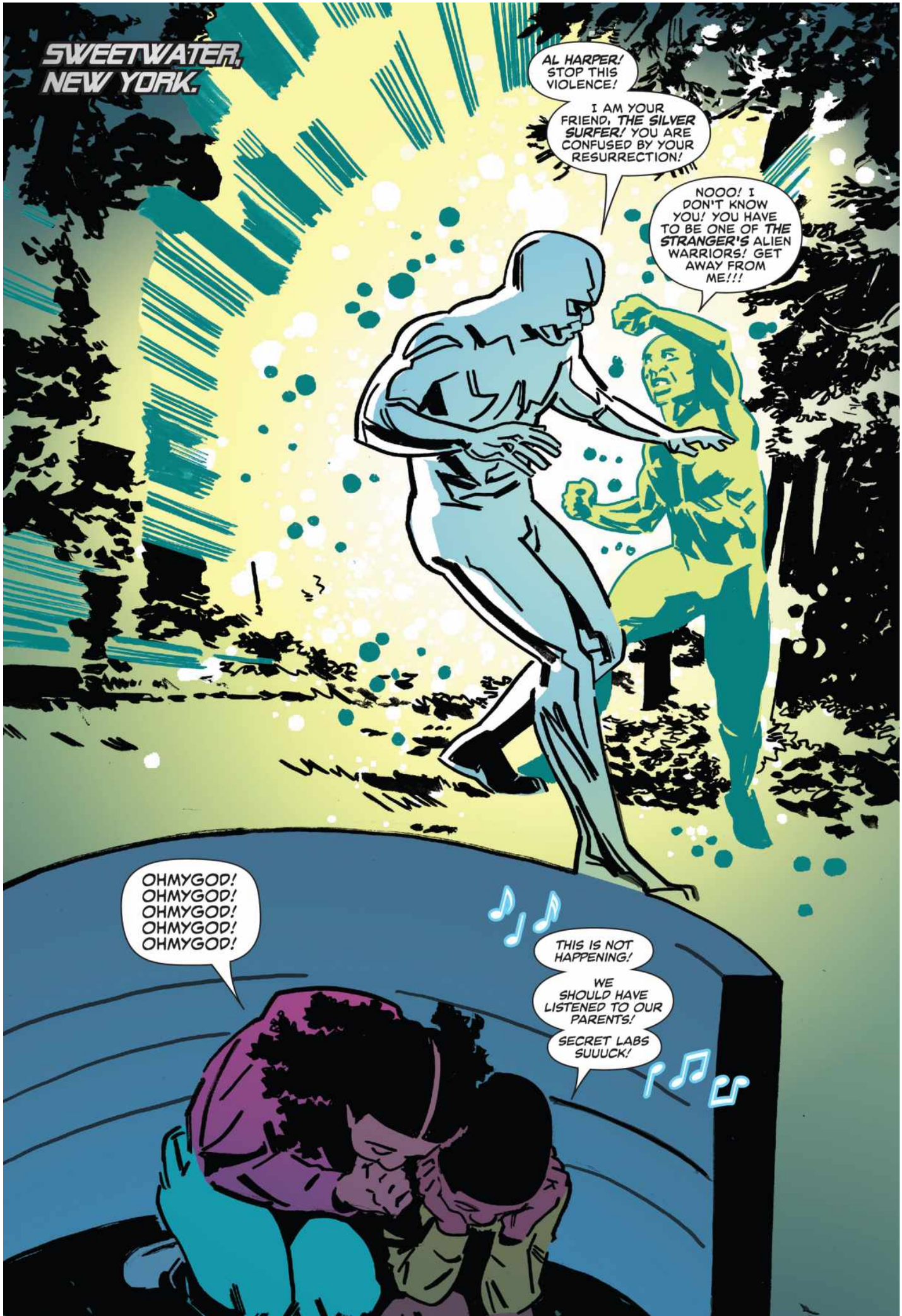
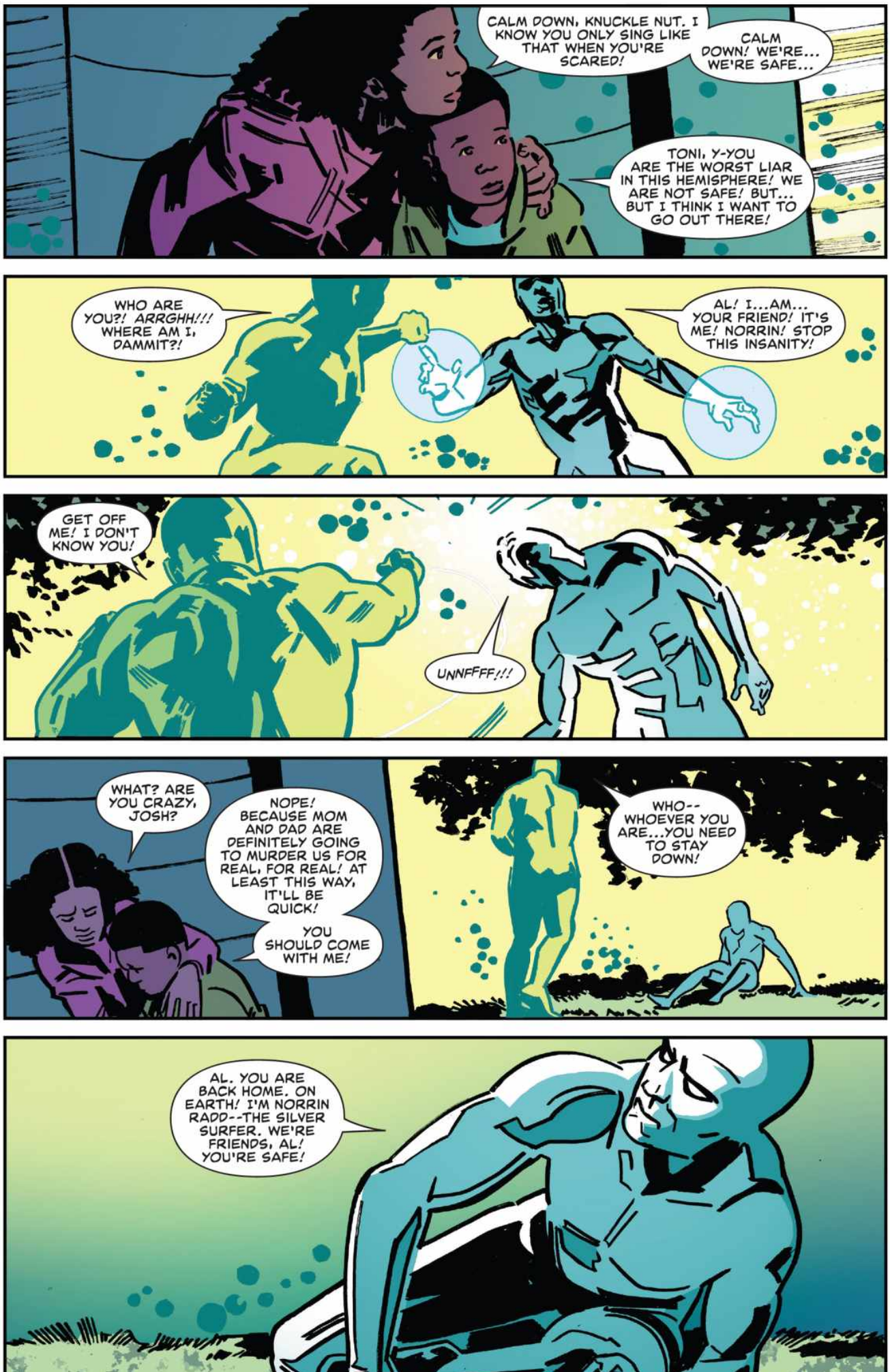
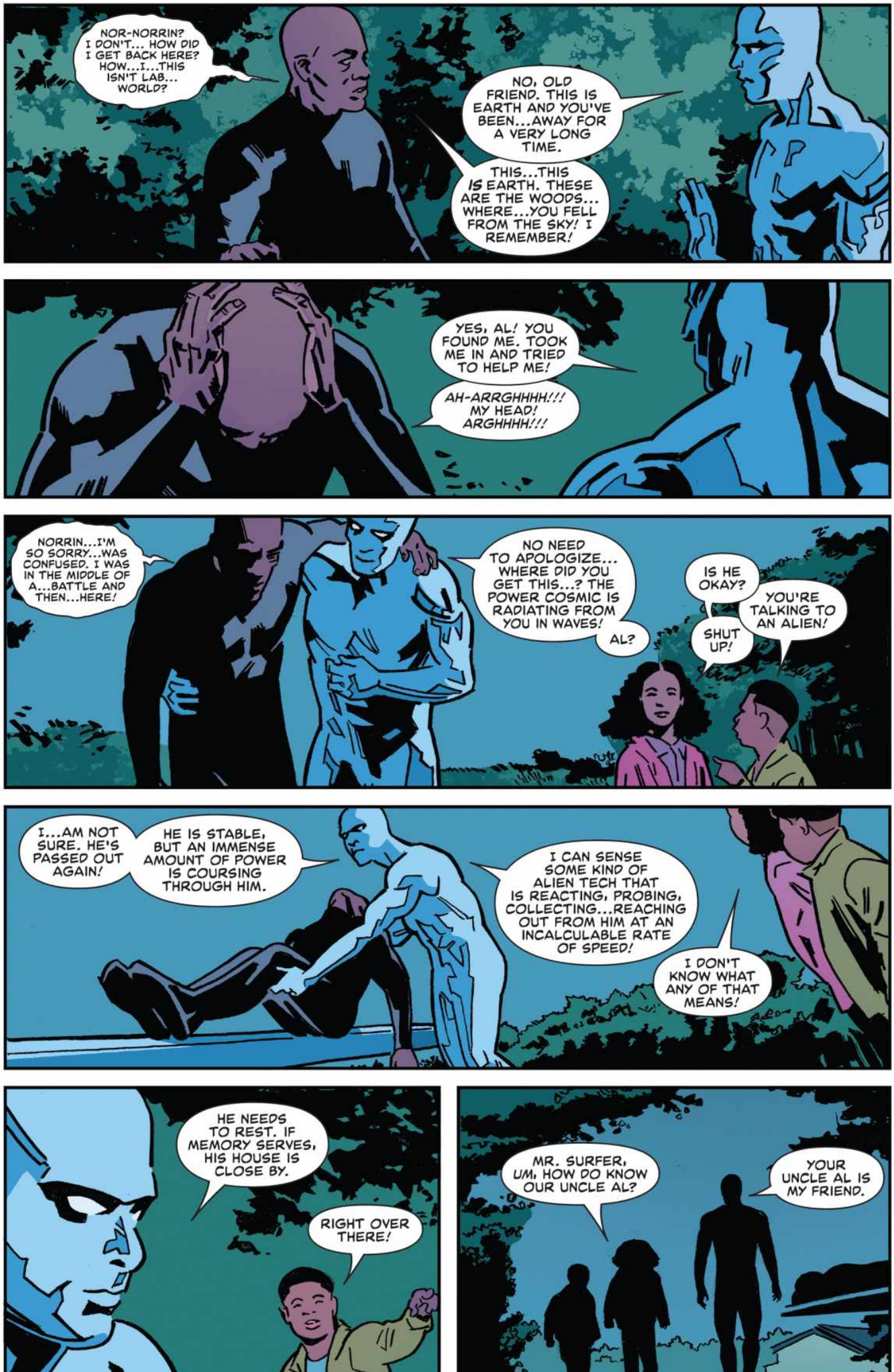
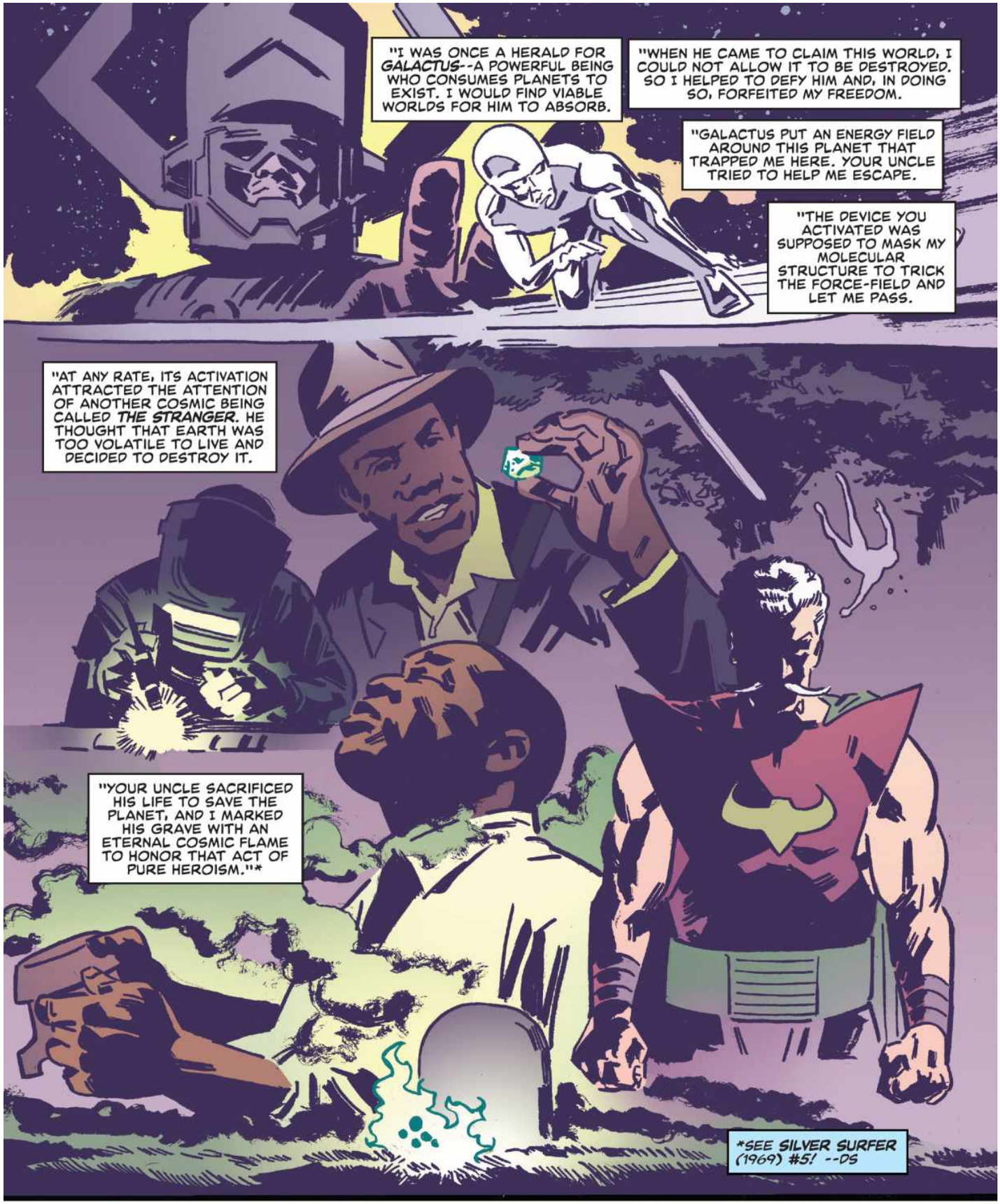

SWEETWATER, NEW YORK.
AL HARPER! STOP THIS VIOLENCE!
I AM YOUR FRIEND, THE SILVER SURFER! YOU ARE CONFUSED BY YOUR RESURRECTION!
NOOO! I DON'T KNOW YOU! YOU HAVE TO BE ONE OF THE STRANGER'S ALIEN WARRIORS! GET AWAY FROM ME!!!
OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD! OHMYGOD!
THIS IS NOT HAPPENING!
WE SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO OUR PARENTS!
SECRET LABS SUUUCK!

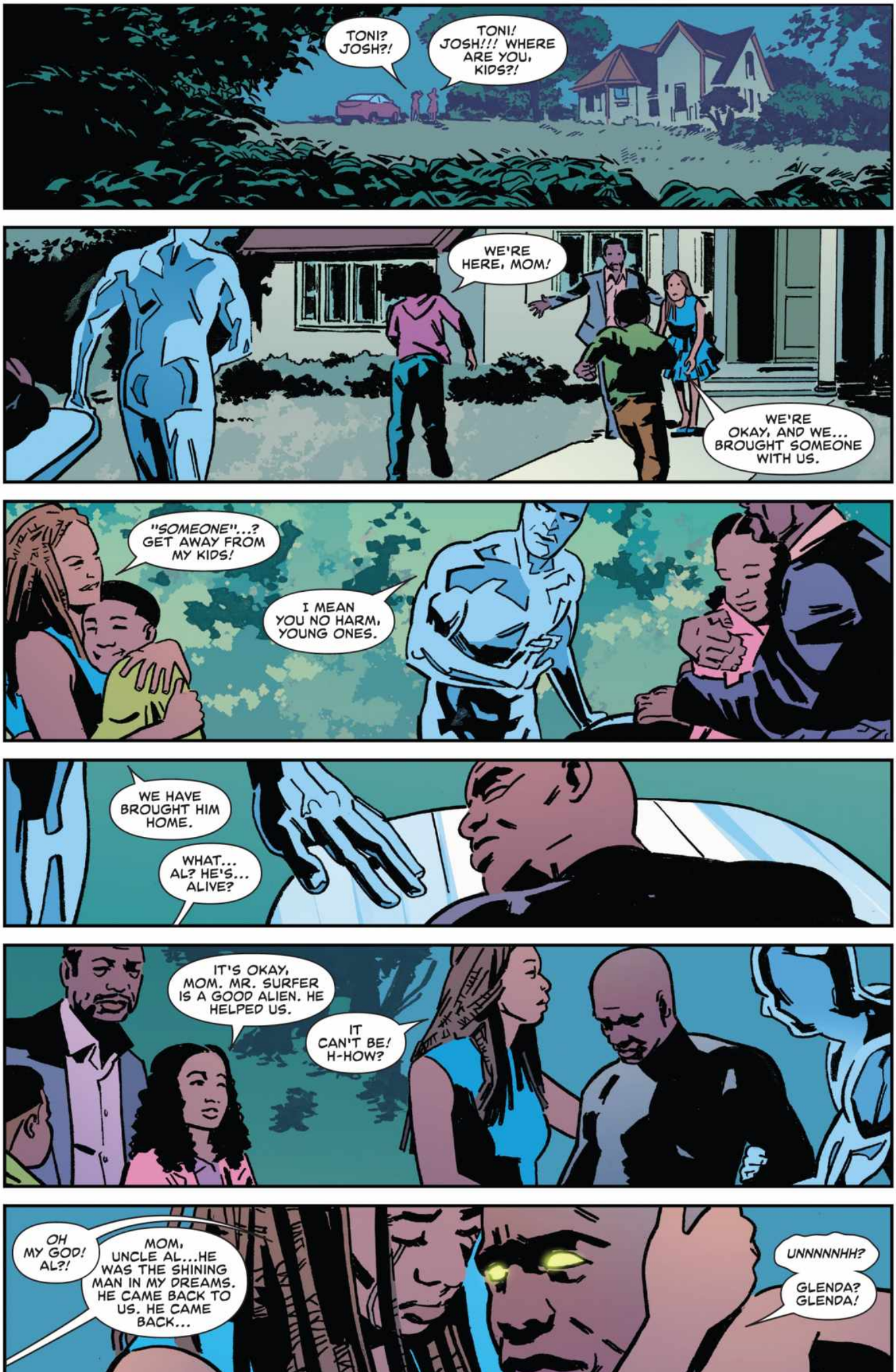

CALM DOWN, KNUCKLE NUT. I KNOW YOU ONLY SING LIKE THAT WHEN YOU'RE SCARED!
CALM DOWN! WE'RE... WE'RE SAFE...
TONI, Y-YOU ARE THE WORST LIAR IN THIS HEMISPHERE! WE ARE NOT SAFE! BUT... BUT I THINK I WANT TO GO OUT THERE!
WHO ARE YOU?! ARRGHH!!! WHERE AM I, DAMMIT?!
AL! I...AM... YOUR FRIEND! IT'S ME! NORRIN! STOP THIS INSANITY!
GET OFF ME! I DON'T KNOW YOU!
UNNFFFF!!!
WHAT? ARE YOU CRAZY, JOSH?
NOPE! BECAUSE MOM AND DAD ARE DEFINITELY GOING TO MURDER US FOR REAL, FOR REAL! AT LEAST THIS WAY, IT'LL BE QUICK!
YOU SHOULD COME WITH ME!
WHO-- WHOEVER YOU ARE...YOU NEED TO STAY DOWN!
AL. YOU ARE BACK HOME. ON EARTH! I'M NORRIN RADD--THE SILVER SURFER. WE'RE FRIENDS, AL! YOU'RE SAFE!


NOR-NORRIN? I DON'T... HOW DID I GET BACK HERE? HOW...I...THIS ISN'T LAB... WORLD?
NO, OLD FRIEND. THIS IS EARTH AND YOU'VE BEEN...AWAY FOR A VERY LONG TIME.
THIS...THIS IS EARTH. THESE ARE THE WOODS... WHERE...YOU FELL FROM THE SKY! I REMEMBER!
YES, AL! YOU FOUND ME. TOOK ME IN AND TRIED TO HELP ME!
AH-ARRGHHHH!!! MY HEAD! ARGHHHH!!!
NORRIN...I'M SO SORRY...WAS CONFUSED. I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A...BATTLE AND THEN...HERE!
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE... WHERE DID YOU GET THIS...? THE POWER COSMIC IS RADIATING FROM YOU IN WAVES!
AL?
IS HE OKAY?
SHUT UP!
YOU'RE TALKING TO AN ALIEN!
I...AM NOT SURE. HE'S PASSED OUT AGAIN!
HE IS STABLE, BUT AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF POWER IS COURSING THROUGH HIM.
I CAN SENSE SOME KIND OF ALIEN TECH THAT IS REACTING, PROBING, COLLECTING...REACHING OUT FROM HIM AT AN INCALCULABLE RATE OF SPEED!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANY OF THAT MEANS!
HE NEEDS TO REST. IF MEMORY SERVES, HIS HOUSE IS CLOSE BY.
RIGHT OVER THERE!
MR. SURFER, UM, HOW DO KNOW OUR UNCLE AL?
YOUR UNCLE AL IS MY FRIEND.


"I WAS ONCE A HERALD FOR GALACTUS--A POWERFUL BEING WHO CONSUMES PLANETS TO EXIST. I WOULD FIND VIABLE WORLDS FOR HIM TO ABSORB.
"WHEN HE CAME TO CLAIM THIS WORLD, I COULD NOT ALLOW IT TO BE DESTROYED. SO I HELPED TO DEFY HIM AND, IN DOING SO, FORFEITED MY FREEDOM.
"GALACTUS PUT AN ENERGY FIELD AROUND THIS PLANET THAT TRAPPED ME HERE. YOUR UNCLE TRIED TO HELP ME ESCAPE.
"THE DEVICE YOU ACTIVATED WAS SUPPOSED TO MASK MY MOLECULAR STRUCTURE TO TRICK THE FORCE-FIELD AND LET ME PASS.
"AT ANY RATE, ITS ACTIVATION ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF ANOTHER COSMIC BEING CALLED THE STRANGER. HE THOUGHT THAT EARTH WAS TOO VOLATILE TO LIVE AND DECIDED TO DESTROY IT.
"YOUR UNCLE SACRIFICED HIS LIFE TO SAVE THE PLANET, AND I MARKED HIS GRAVE WITH AN ETERNAL COSMIC FLAME TO HONOR THAT ACT OF PURE HEROISM."*
*SEE SILVER SURFER (1969) #5! --DS

I SHIFTED THE SPACE AROUND THE GRAVE SLIGHTLY OUT OF THIS REALITY TO PROTECT IT FOR ALL TIME.
I'VE VISITED HIM EVERY YEAR SINCE.
SO OUR UNCLE HAS BEEN IN THE GROUND FOR OVER A DECADE

AND YOU NEVER THOUGHT SOMEONE ELSE WAS MISSING HIM? LIKE HE WAS JUST YOURS TO MOURN?
I... NO.


TONI? JOSH?!
TONI! JOSH!!! WHERE ARE YOU, KIDS?!
WE'RE HERE, MOM!
WE'RE OKAY, AND WE... BROUGHT SOMEONE WITH US.
"SOMEONE"...? GET AWAY FROM MY KIDS!
I MEAN YOU NO HARM, YOUNG ONES.
WE HAVE BROUGHT HIM HOME.
WHAT... AL? HE'S... ALIVE?
IT'S OKAY, MOM. MR. SURFER IS A GOOD ALIEN. HE HELPED US.
IT CAN'T BE! H-HOW?
OH MY GOD! AL?!
MOM, UNCLE AL...HE WAS THE SHINING MAN IN MY DREAMS. HE CAME BACK TO US. HE CAME BACK...
UNNNNNHH?
GLENDA? GLENDA!

NO, NO, NO, NO!!!
GLEN? PLEASE DON'T CRY--I...

@$&%$#!!! WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN, AL?
ON... LABWORLD?
WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN, @$&%$#?!

AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU? WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY BROTHER?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I...I AM THE SILVER SURFER, SENTINEL OF THE SPACEWAYS!
I DID NOTHING BUT BRING HIM BACK HOME AFTER HIS RESURRECTION, AND I AM JUST AS PERPLEXED AT HIS BEING ALIVE AS YOU ARE.

WHAT IN THE BLUE BLAZES IS HAPPENING OUT HERE?
I CAN'T EVEN SLEEP FOR THIS DANGGONE RACKET!
SENTINEL OF--YOU'RE JUST AS CRAZY AS HE IS, MISTER!

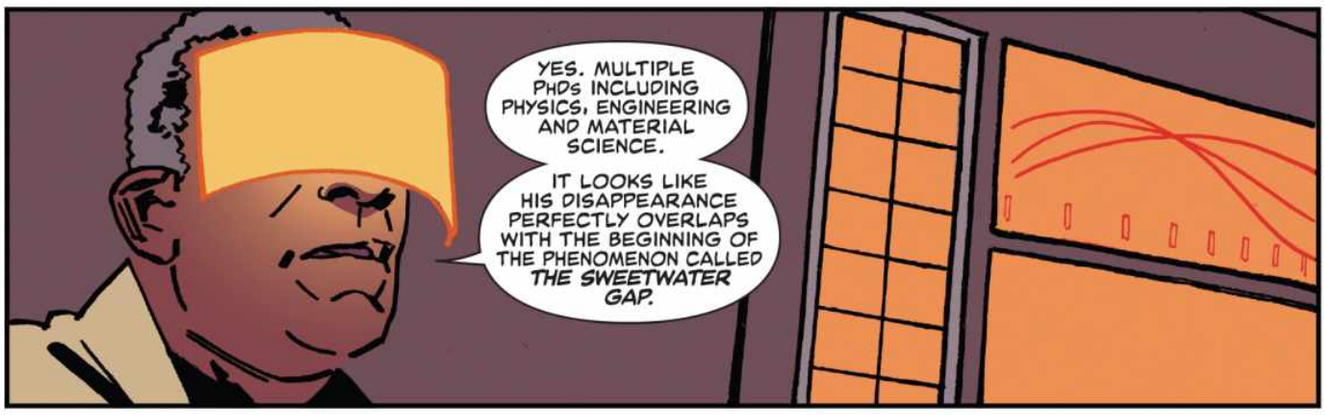
...I THOUGHT THE WOODS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE-- AL?

UNNGGHHH!
MOM? MOM!
HATTIE?! WHAT'S WRONG?

SOMEWHERE OVER THE MIDWEST.

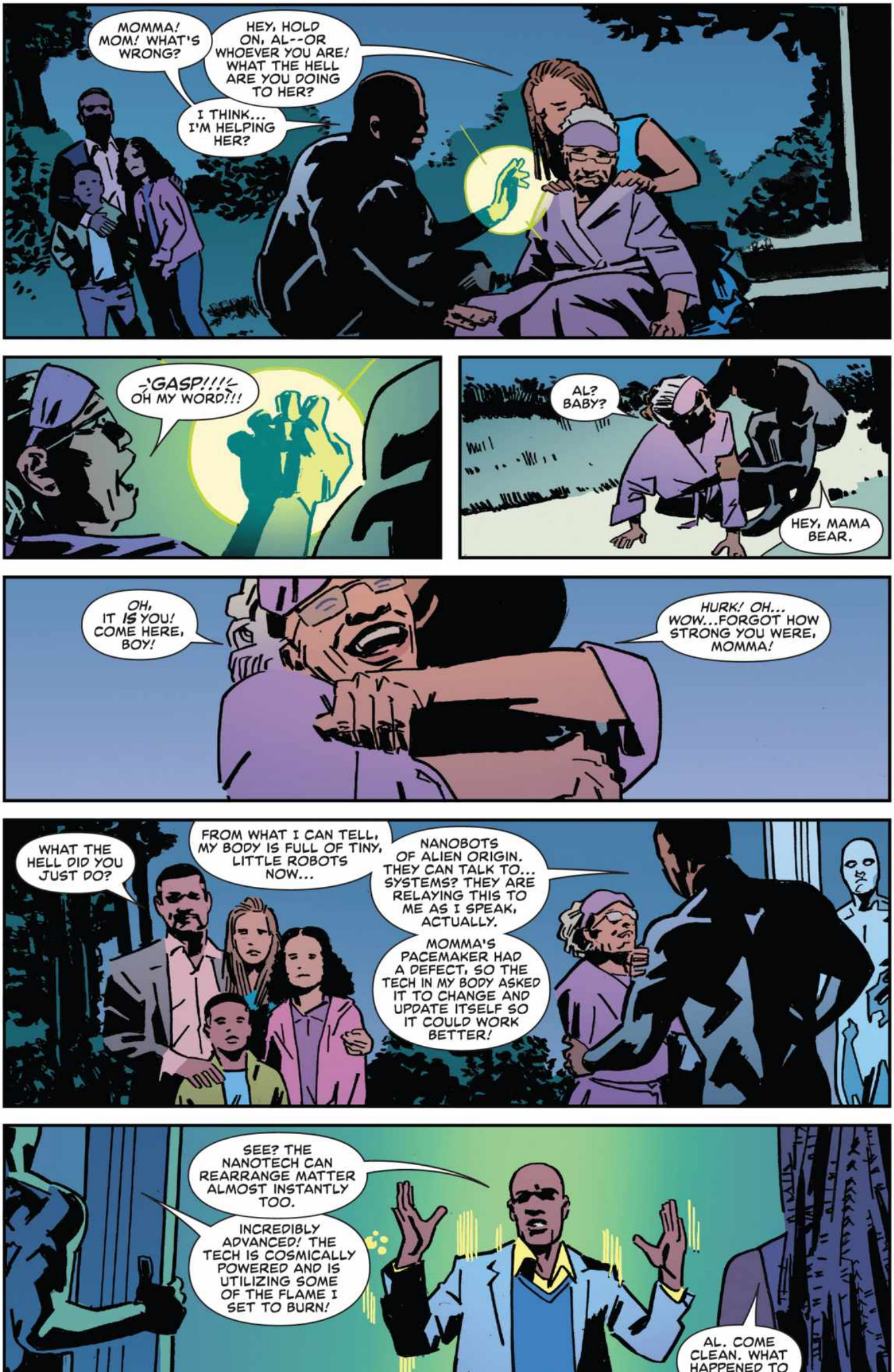
DR. SOLOMON, CHECK THIS OUT! THE LOCATION WE'RE HEADED TO HAD AN ELABORATE GPS SCRAMBLER ENABLED.
AND WHAT DID YOU FIND, IF ANYTHING, BRATTON?

IT TURNS OUT THAT THE ENERGY SIGNATURE WE DETECTED IN THE TECH IS AN EXACT MATCH TO THE WORK OF ONE DR. ALVIN B. HARPER.
HE WAS WORKING FOR US ABOUT A DECADE AGO, AND THEN HE WENT MISSING.
I WAS A FOLLOWER OF HIS WORK FOR YEARS! HE'S BEEN ON OUR MISSING-ASSETS LIST EVER SINCE. HE'S A GENIUS!


YES. MULTIPLE PHDS INCLUDING PHYSICS, ENGINEERING AND MATERIAL SCIENCE.
IT LOOKS LIKE HIS DISAPPEARANCE PERFECTLY OVERLAPS WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE PHENOMENON CALLED THE SWEETWATER GAP.

WELL, WELL, WELL... THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER.
"WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE'S

SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GALAXY, NOT SO FAR, FAR AWAY...
NO ONE BREACHES LABWORLD. NO ONE ENTERS OR LEAVES WITHOUT OUR SAY-SO!
WE KNOW THIS. OF COURSE WE DO! BUT STILL, OUR PRIZE HAS LEFT LABWORLD! BUT HOW?
THE EARTHMAN? AL B. HARPER? HE'S GONE? IMPOSSIBLE!
BUT YET... HE HAS GONE! HE IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
OUR INSTRUMENTS HAVE TRACKED HIM BACK TO EARTH. HIS ENERGY SIGNATURE IS IN OUR DATA BANKS.
HOW SICK I AM OF THAT LOWLY ROCK AND ITS BANAL INHABITANTS!
I WILL PUNISH HARPER FOR FORCING US TO GO BACK TO IT TO COLLECT HIM!
HIS SUFFERING WILL BE MAGNIFICENT.
YESSS... MAGNIFICENTLY LEGENDARY! WE MUST RECORD IT. IT WILL BE RECORDED, YES?
OH YESSS, AND STUDIED AND SIFTED AND CUT TO PIECES...UNTIL WE UNDERSTAND EVERY MORSEL OF HIM.
WE MUST SEND OUR PETS TO RETRIEVE OUR SPECIMEN.
YES. HE WILL BE BACK HERE SOON, AND


MOMMA! MOM! WHAT'S WRONG?
HEY, HOLD ON, AL--OR WHOEVER YOU ARE! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING TO HER?
I THINK... I'M HELPING HER?
-'GASP!!!'- OH MY WORD?!!
AL? BABY?
HEY, MAMA BEAR.
OH, IT IS YOU! COME HERE, BOY!
HURK! OH... WOW...FORGOT HOW STRONG YOU WERE, MOMMA!
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST DO?
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, MY BODY IS FULL OF TINY, LITTLE ROBOTS NOW...
NANOBOTS OF ALIEN ORIGIN. THEY CAN TALK TO... SYSTEMS? THEY ARE RELAYING THIS TO ME AS I SPEAK, ACTUALLY.
MOMMA'S PACEMAKER HAD A DEFECT, SO THE TECH IN MY BODY ASKED IT TO CHANGE AND UPDATE ITSELF SO IT COULD WORK BETTER!
SEE? THE NANOTECH CAN REARRANGE MATTER ALMOST INSTANTLY TOO.
INCREDIBLY ADVANCED! THE TECH IS COSMICALLY POWERED AND IS UTILIZING SOME OF THE FLAME I SET TO BURN!
AL. COME CLEAN. WHAT HAPPENED TO

"WELL, IT WAS AFTER I GOT MY PHD AT M.I.T. JAMAICA AND I HAD JUST HAD OUR SON, SEAN, AND I WAS AT A TENURE-TRACK POST AS A PHYSICS PROFESSOR AT A HIGHLY RESPECTED PRIVATE UNIVERSITY.

"ONE OF MY TRUSTED MENTORS STOLE MY THEORETICAL WORK AND PUBLISHED IT IN A PRESTIGIOUS JOURNAL BEFORE I DID. IT TOTALLY UPENDED MY CHANCES AT TENURE. I LOST IT, AND I PUNCHED HIM OUT. THEY FIRED ME, AND I ENDED UP WORKING FOR A CLANDESTINE COLLECTION OF SCIENTISTS. DANGEROUS BUT WELL FUNDED.

"I NEEDED THE MONEY, YOU SEE. BUT IN ORDER TO PROTECT MY FAMILY FROM WHAT THEY COULD DO, I ISOLATED MYSELF IN SWEETWATER TO WORK SECRETLY. I SENT MONEY TO JAMAICA AND SEAN TO TAKE CARE OF THEM. I WAS ASHAMED THAT I HAD TO DO THIS WORK FOR SUCH AN INSIDIOUS COLLECTIVE, BUT I HAD NO CHOICE.

"AFTER A WHILE, JAMAICA STOPPED TAKING THE MONEY. THEN SHE STOPPED TAKING MY CALLS. WHAT SHE DID TAKE WAS MY SON AND MY HEART ALONG WITH HIM. I'D LOST MY FAMILY BECAUSE I LOST MY TEMPER.

"AFTER THAT, I HIT A LOW POINT AND JUST FOCUSED ON THE WORK. THAT'S WHEN I MET THE SURFER. I TRIED TO MAKE UP FOR WHAT I WAS DOING WITH THIS GROUP BY HELPING HIM.

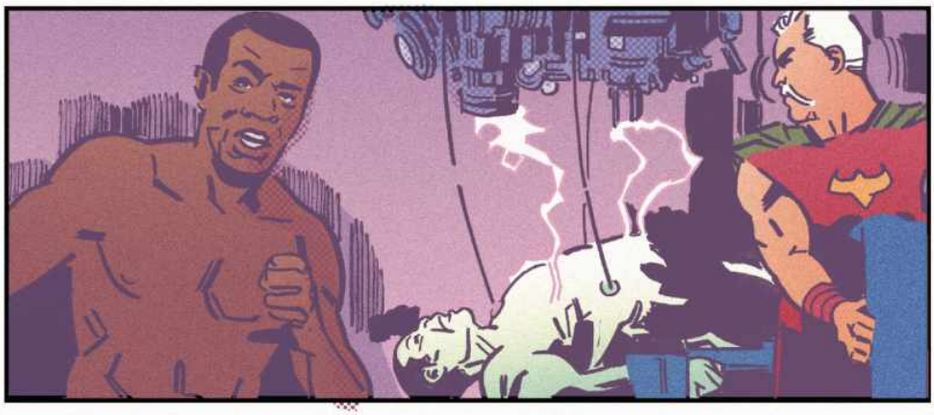
"THE TESTS OF THE DEVICE I CREATED FOR HIM ATTRACTED THE STRANGER--AN IMPOSSIBLY ANCIENT AND POWERFUL MAD SCIENTIST WITH UNTOLD TECHNOLOGY.

"HE'S MUCH MORE THAN HE SEEMS. THE STRANGER IS ONE BEING THAT IS COMPOSED OF AN ENTIRE POPULATION FROM A PLANET CALLED ***GIGANTUS***.

"THE TECH THAT ALLOWED THAT TO BE POSSIBLE HAS BECOME OUT OF SYNC OVER THE MILLENNIA, AND HE'S GOTTEN MORE AND MORE UNSTABLE. IT NEEDS TO BE RECALIBRATED

"He'd been studying our planet for years and thought that humans would eventually endanger the universe. So he set a bomb that would use the life force of the population to transform the earth into another sun that he'd collect later for his own purposes.

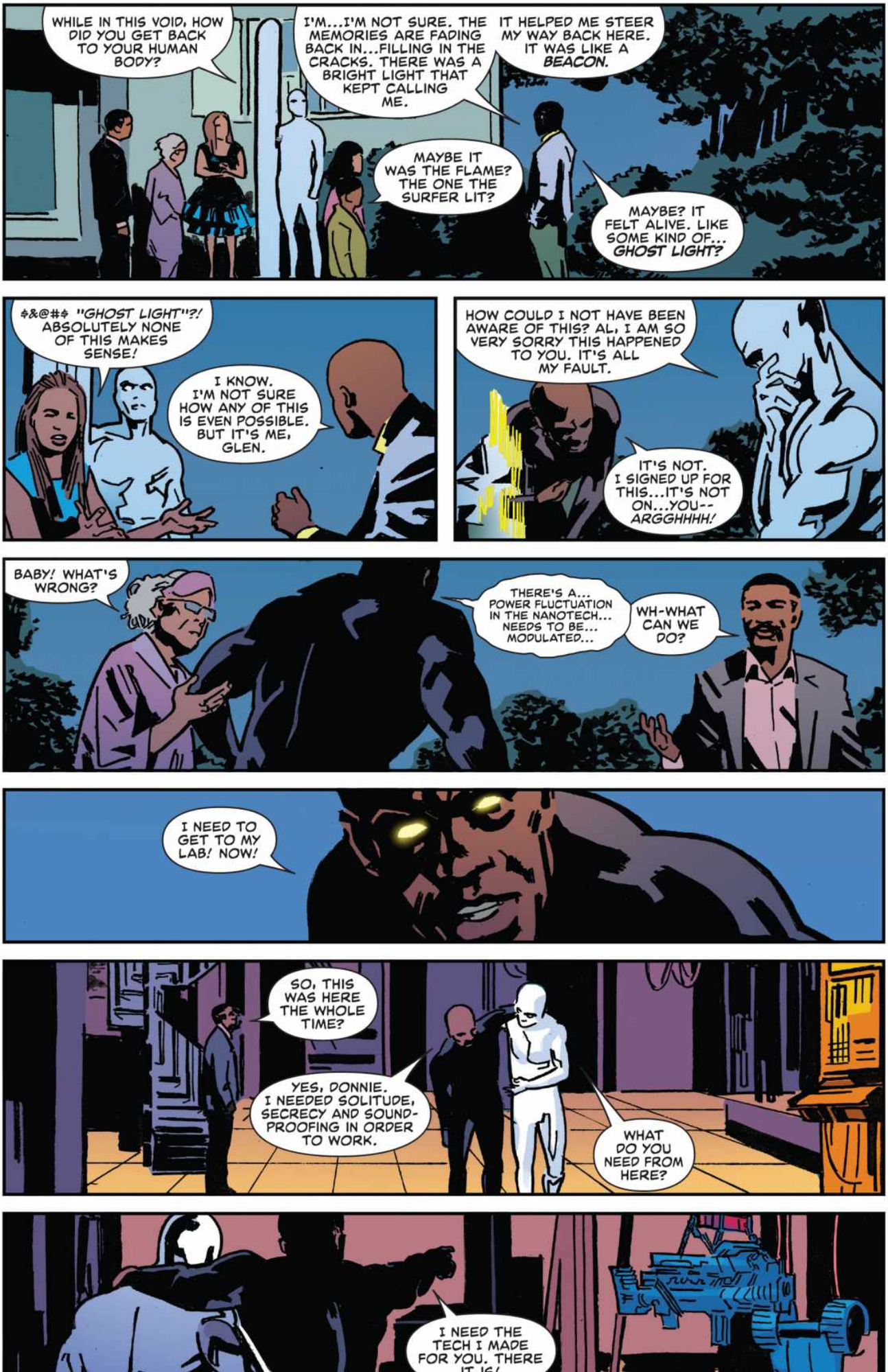
"While he and the Surfer duked it out, I tried to defuse the bomb. What I did was trigger it, and a green nano-cloud snatched out my life force and gave it physical form on Labworld, leaving my natural body here.



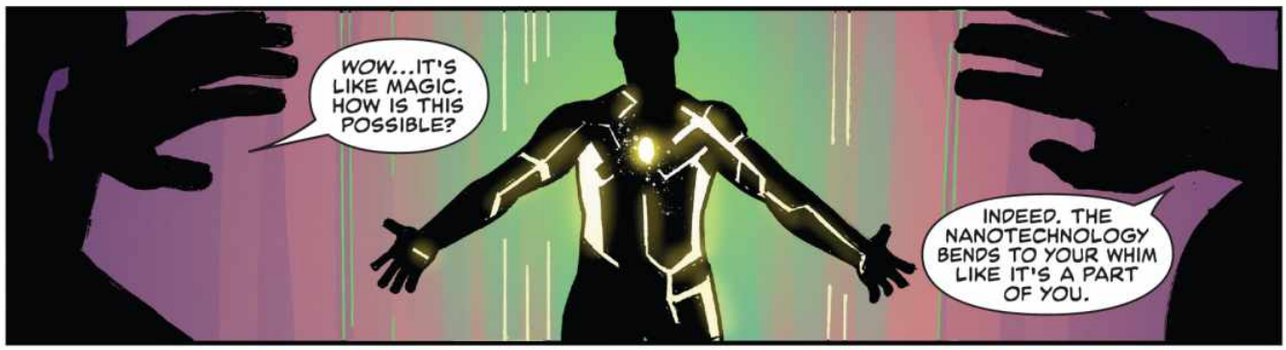
"On Labworld, along with thousands of other aliens, I was being experimented on by the Stranger. Sometimes he was kind to us, but mostly, he was cruel and unpredictable. It was a nightmare!

"We survived by banding together and fighting against his menagerie of alien creatures and other things. I was mid-battle when I was hit with a flash of light.

"My life force shifted from matter back to energy again, and I ended up in an abyss floating for what seemed like an eternity. Then I started to see Toni."


WHILE IN THIS VOID, HOW DID YOU GET BACK TO YOUR HUMAN BODY?
I'M...I'M NOT SURE. THE MEMORIES ARE FADING BACK IN...FILLING IN THE CRACKS. THERE WAS A BRIGHT LIGHT THAT KEPT CALLING ME.
IT HELPED ME STEER MY WAY BACK HERE. IT WAS LIKE A BEACON.
MAYBE IT WAS THE FLAME? THE ONE THE SURFER LIT?
MAYBE? IT FELT ALIVE. LIKE SOME KIND OF... GHOST LIGHT?
$&@#$ "GHOST LIGHT"?! ABSOLUTELY NONE OF THIS MAKES SENSE!
I KNOW. I'M NOT SURE HOW ANY OF THIS IS EVEN POSSIBLE. BUT IT'S ME, GLEN.
HOW COULD I NOT HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THIS? AL, I AM SO VERY SORRY THIS HAPPENED TO YOU. IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
IT'S NOT. I SIGNED UP FOR THIS...IT'S NOT ON...YOU-- ARGGHHHH!
BABY! WHAT'S WRONG?
THERE'S A... POWER FLUCTUATION IN THE NANOTECH... NEEDS TO BE... MODULATED...
WH-WHAT CAN WE DO?
I NEED TO GET TO MY LAB! NOW!
SO, THIS WAS HERE THE WHOLE TIME?
YES, DONNIE. I NEEDED SOLITUDE, SECRECY AND SOUND-PROOFING IN ORDER TO WORK.
WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM HERE?
I NEED THE TECH I MADE FOR YOU. THERE IT IS!

LET ME GET THIS ON...
WHAT IS THIS THING?
IT WAS THE DEVICE AL DESIGNED TO HELP ME ESCAPE FROM GALACTUS' ENERGY BARRIER.


WOW...IT'S LIKE MAGIC. HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
INDEED. THE NANOTECHNOLOGY BENDS TO YOUR WHIM LIKE IT'S A PART OF YOU.

OH, YES. THIS FEELS MUCH BETTER! THE NANO-BOTS HAVE REMIXED THE ORIGINAL TECH INTO A NEW MORE EFFICIENT CONFIGURATION!

A FEW MILES AWAY AT CAMP FLORA.
CAMP FLORA
OKAY, CAMPERS! FIFTEEN MINUTES UNTIL LIGHTS OUT!
YOU HEARD HER! START SHUTTING IT DOWN, PEOPLE!
LITTLE MONSTERS.
WE HAVE LIKE FIFTEEN MINUTES. THAT'S LONG ENOUGH.
JUST KISS ME. WE HAVE MORE TIME... NO NEED TO RUSH.
OH MY G-- AHHHH!!!
EEEKKKKKK!

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
I AM NOT GOING TO FIND OUT.

DUDE, WE'RE COUNSELORS! IT'S OUR JOB TO PROTECT THESE KIDS! WHAT IF SOMEONE'S HURT? OR WORSE?
GUHURRHHHHHH...
TAYLOR
COSBY

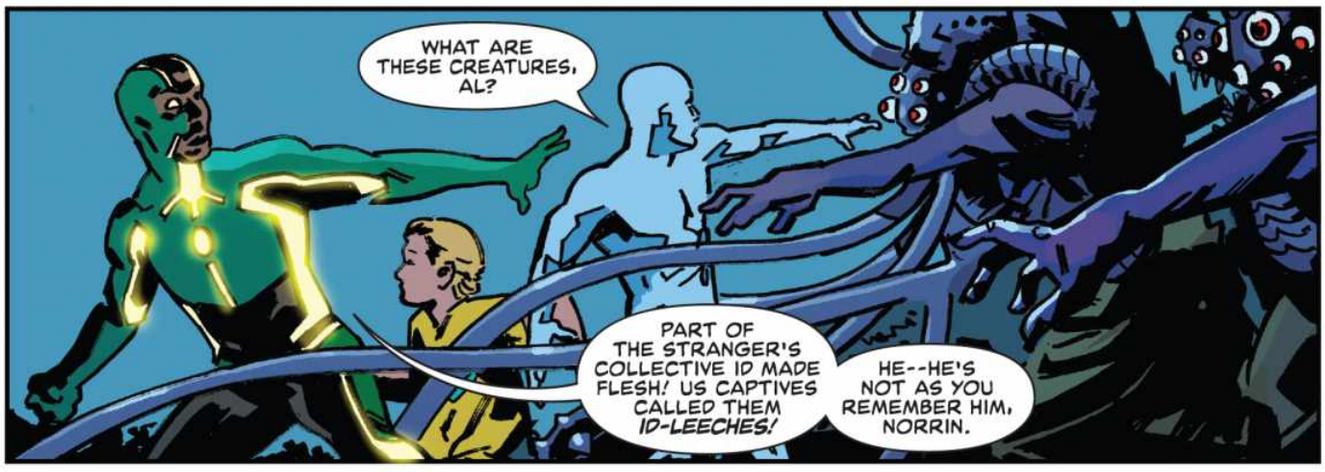
WHERE... ISSS...THE SPECIMENNNNN?

AIEEEE!!!
WHAT IN THE HOLY CRONENBERG?!
"SO, DONNIE...

...BUT HOW DID YOU ALL END UP IN MY HOUSE? I'D WILLED IT TO JAMAICA AND SEAN. WHERE ARE THEY?!
UM, YEAH...WELL, JAMAICA SAID THAT SHE DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS PLACE. "PAINFUL MEMORIES," SHE SAID.
GLENDA WAS THE NEXT BENEFICIARY ACCORDING TO YOUR WILL, SO HERE WE ARE. JAMAICA AND SEAN MOVED TO CHICAGO. JAMAICA'S AN "ART SUPERSTAR" NOW, AND--
SILENCE! THERE'S SOMETHING HERE. SOMETHING... WRONG!

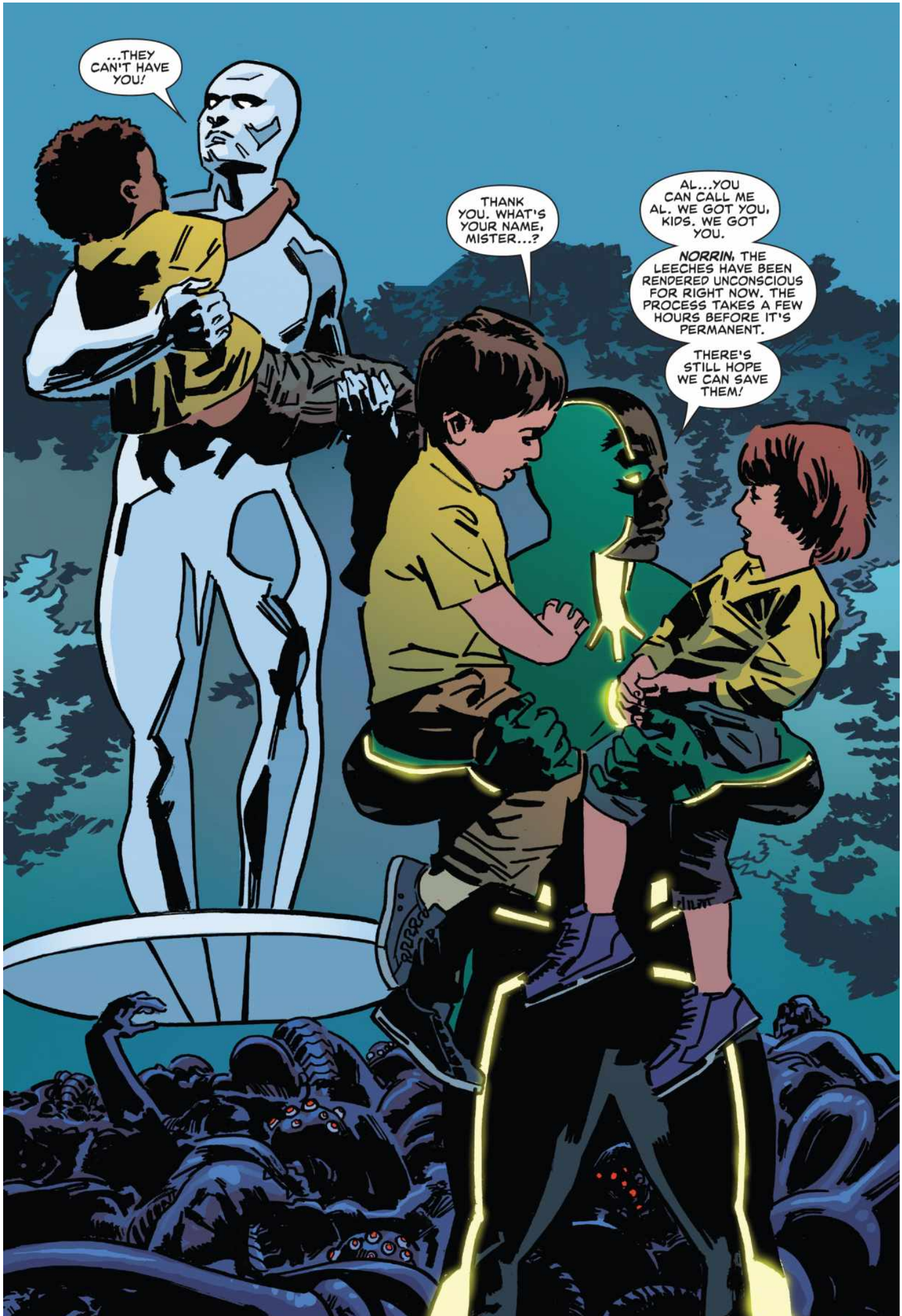
WHAT IS THAT--OUT AT THE TREE LINE?!
I DO NOT KNOW.
I DO... PREPARE TO FIGHT FOR YOUR LIVES.

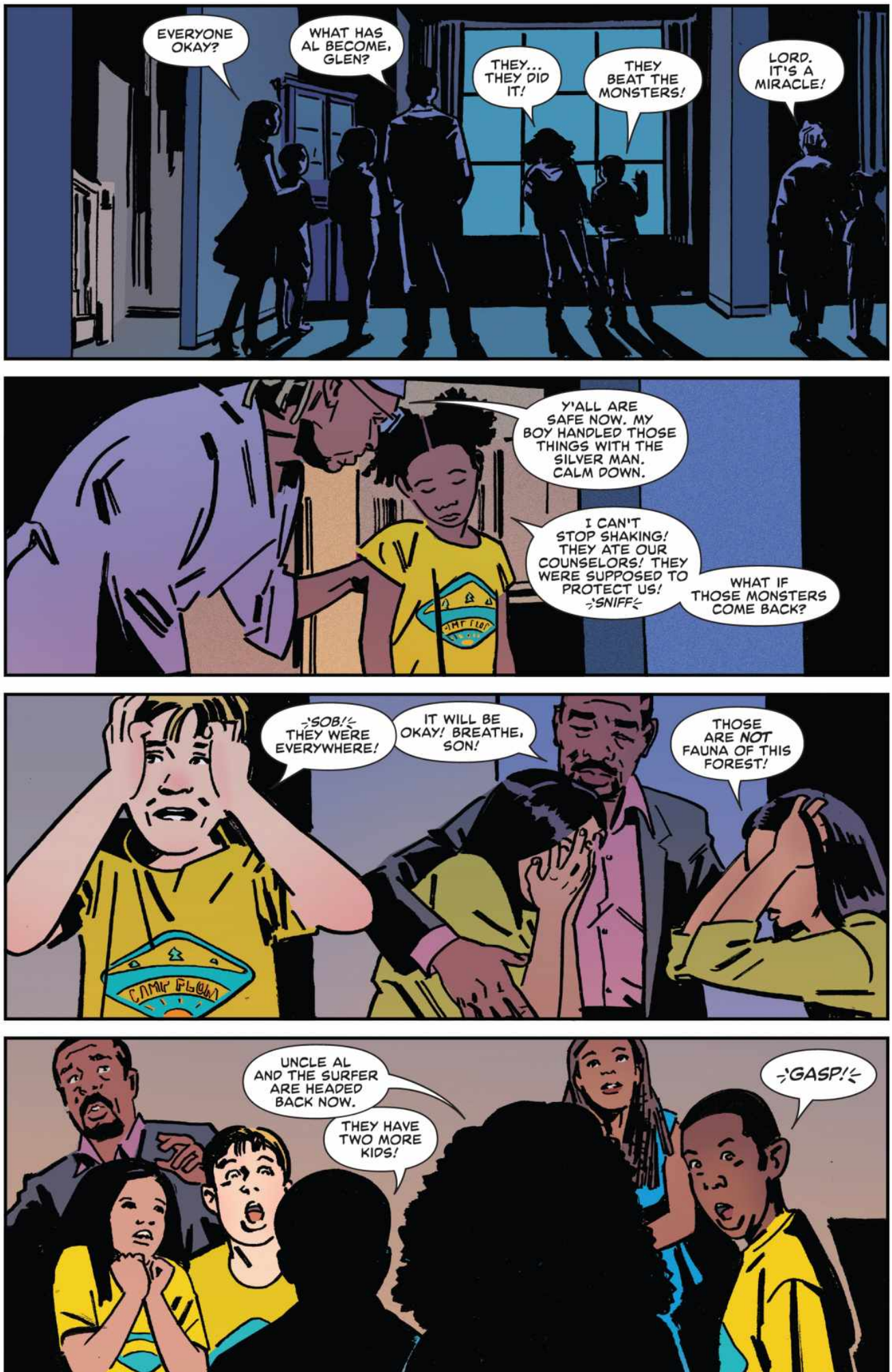
AHHHH!!! MONSTERS! FOR-REAL MONSTERS!
HELLLLP! OH GOD!


WHAT ARE THESE CREATURES, AL?
PART OF THE STRANGER'S COLLECTIVE ID MADE FLESH! US CAPTIVES CALLED THEM ID-LEECHES!
HE--HE'S NOT AS YOU REMEMBER HIM, NORRIN.

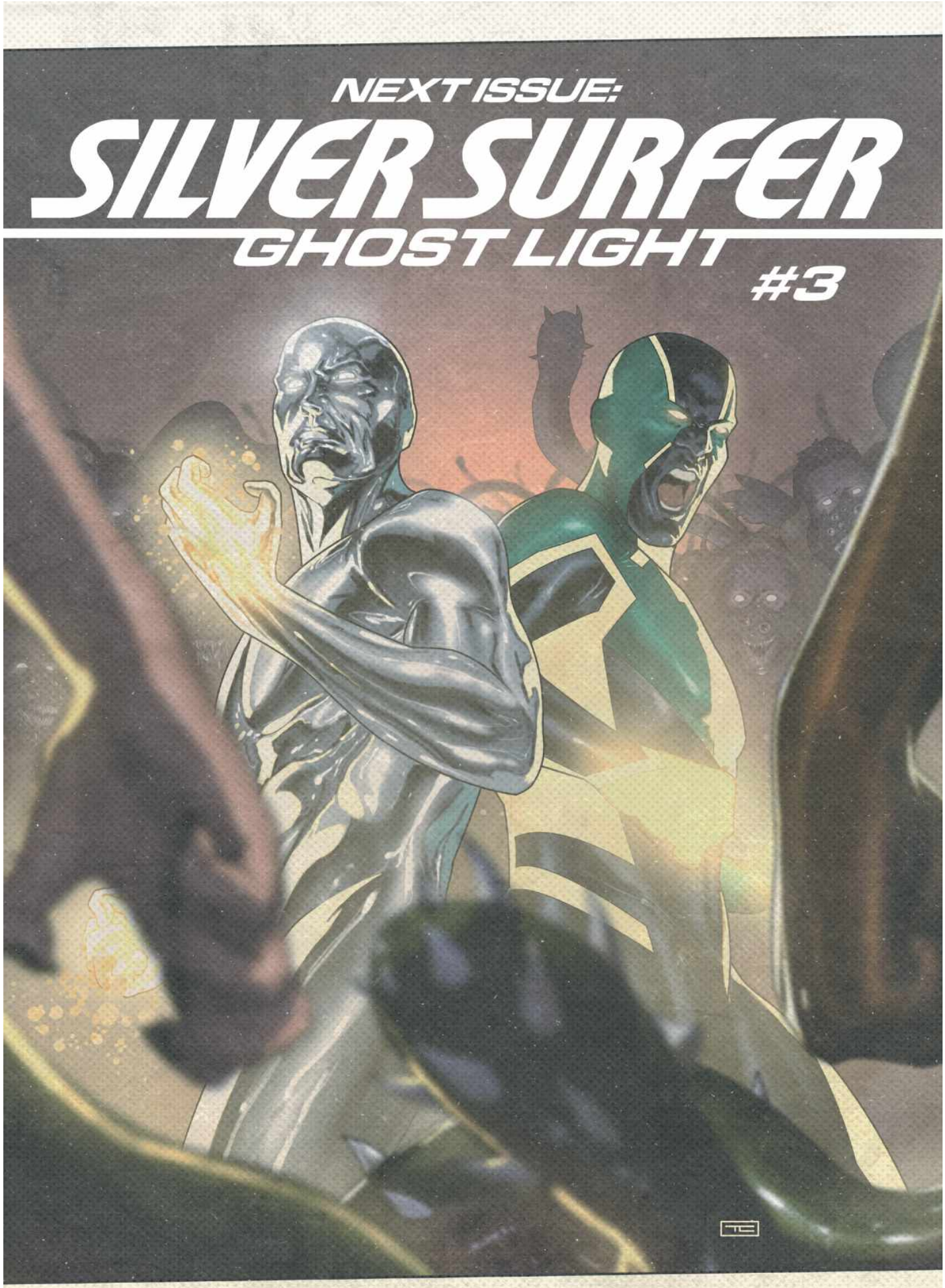
WHAT...WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS???
THEY'RE AFTER THOSE KIDS!

HOLD ON, YOUNGLINGS! WE WILL GET YOU TO SAFE HAVEN!
AIEEEE!
AHHHHH!!!
PLEASE! LET US IN! LET US IN!
ARRRGHHHHHH! THEY'RE AFTER US!
WE'RE GONNA DIE! WE'RE GONNA DIE!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THEY CAME OUT OF NOWHERE AND STARTED... ATTACKING US!
THEY'RE HORRIBLE! OUR FRIENDS! WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEM?
TRY AND CALM DOWN! YOU'RE WITH US NOW!
THE STRANGER IS UNHINGED! THESE CREATURES ARE COMING DIRECTLY FROM HIS PSYCHE!
BUT HOW? WHY ARE THEY HERE?
I THINK... I THINK THAT THEY'RE HERE FOR ME!
WELL...


...THEY CAN'T HAVE YOU!
THANK YOU. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, MISTER...?
AL...YOU CAN CALL ME AL. WE GOT YOU, KIDS. WE GOT YOU.
NORRIN, THE LEECHES HAVE BEEN RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS FOR RIGHT NOW. THE PROCESS TAKES A FEW HOURS BEFORE IT'S PERMANENT.
THERE'S STILL HOPE WE CAN SAVE THEM!


EVERYONE OKAY?
WHAT HAS AL BECOME, GLEN?
THEY... THEY DID IT!
THEY BEAT THE MONSTERS!
LORD. IT'S A MIRACLE!
Y'ALL ARE SAFE NOW. MY BOY HANDLED THOSE THINGS WITH THE SILVER MAN. CALM DOWN.
I CAN'T STOP SHAKING! THEY ATE OUR COUNSELORS! THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO PROTECT US! -SNIFF-
WHAT IF THOSE MONSTERS COME BACK?
-SOB!- THEY WERE EVERYWHERE!
IT WILL BE OKAY! BREATHE, SON!
THOSE ARE NOT FAUNA OF THIS FOREST!
UNCLE AL AND THE SURFER ARE HEADED BACK NOW.
THEY HAVE TWO MORE KIDS!
-GASP!-

WHAT? UM...Y'ALL OKAY?
WHAT?!



SURFER AND GHOST LIGHT ARE CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE BETWEEN THE STRANGER AND A.I.M.! BUT WHAT DO THESE VILLAINOUS FORCES WANT FROM OUR HEROES? AND WHY DO THEY LOOK SO DIFFERENT? GET

ZONE